

In the Claims:

Please add new claims as shown herein below.

1. (Original) A plant package comprising:
a sleeve formed of a flexible polymeric material having at least a portion
of one surface thereof modified to provide the sleeve formed
therefrom with a texture or appearance simulating the texture or
appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof, the
sleeve having an upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral
surface, an inner peripheral surface and an inner retaining space;
a flower pot having an upper end and an outer peripheral surface; and
wherein the flower pot is disposed in the inner retaining space of the
sleeve whereby the sleeve substantially surrounds the outer
peripheral surface of the flower pot and provides a decorative cover
for the flower pot wherein the decorative cover has the texture or
appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at
least a portion of one surface thereof.
2. (Original) The plant package of claim 1 wherein the flexible polymeric
material has a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

3. (Original) The plant package of claim 1 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided on at least a portion of one surface of the flexible polymeric material by at least one of printing, embossing, flocking, applying a foamable lacquer, applying a foamable ink, applying a matting lacquer, applying a matted ink, and combinations thereof.

4. (Original) The plant package of claim 3 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided by a printed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the flexible polymeric material and an embossed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the flexible polymeric material.

5. (Original) The plant package of claim 4 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are in registry with one another.

6. (Original) The plant package of claim 4 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are out of registry with one another.

7. (Original) The plant package of claim 4 wherein at least a portion of the printed pattern is in registry with the embossed pattern, and at least a portion of the printed pattern is out of registry with the embossed pattern.

8. (Original) The plant package of claim 1 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is closed.

9. (Original) The plant package of claim 8 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is provided with a gusset formed therein.

10. (Original) A plant package comprising:

a sleeve formed of an expanded core polymeric film having at least a portion of one surface thereof modified to provide the sleeve formed therefrom with a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth, the sleeve having an upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface and an inner retaining space;

a flower pot having an upper end and an outer peripheral surface; and

wherein the flower pot is disposed in the inner retaining space of the sleeve whereby the sleeve substantially surrounds the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and provides the decorative

cover for the flower pot wherein the decorative cover has a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof.

11. (Original) The plant package of claim 10 wherein the expanded core polymeric film has a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

12. (Original) The plant package of claim 10 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided on at least a portion of one surface of the expanded core polymeric film by at least one of printing, embossing, flocking, applying a foamable lacquer, applying a foamable ink, applying a matting lacquer, applying a matted ink, and combinations thereof.

13. (Original) The plant package of claim 12 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided by a printed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the expanded core polymeric film and an embossed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the expanded core polymeric film.

14. (Original) The plant package of claim 13 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are in registry with one another.

15. (Original) The plant package of claim 13 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are out of registry with one another.

16. (Original) The plant package of claim 13 wherein at least a portion of the printed pattern is in registry with the embossed pattern, and at least a portion of the printed pattern is out of registry with the embossed pattern.

17. (Original) The plant package of claim 10 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is closed.

18. (Original) The plant package of claim 17 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is provided with a gusset formed therein.

19. (Original) A decorative cover for a flower pot, wherein the decorative cover is provided with a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof, the decorative cover comprising:

a sleeve formed of a flexible polymeric material having at least a portion of one surface thereof modified to provide the sleeve formed therefrom with a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof, the sleeve having an upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface and an inner retaining space, wherein a flower pot may be disposed in the inner retaining space of the sleeve such that the sleeve substantially surrounds an outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and provides a decorative cover for the flower pot wherein the decorative cover has the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof.

20. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 19 wherein the flexible polymeric material has a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

21. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 19 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided on at least a portion of one surface of the flexible polymeric material by at least one of printing, embossing, flocking, applying a foamable lacquer, applying a foamable

ink, applying a matting lacquer, applying a matted ink, and combinations thereof.

22. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 21 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided by a printed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the flexible polymeric material and an embossed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the flexible polymeric material.

23. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 22 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are in registry with one another.

24. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 22 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are out of registry with one another.

25. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 22 wherein at least a portion of the printed pattern is in registry with the embossed pattern, and at least a portion of the printed pattern is out of registry with the embossed pattern.

26. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 19 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is closed.

27. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 26 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is provided with a gusset formed therein.

28. (Original) A decorative cover for a flower pot, wherein the decorative cover is provided with a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof, the decorative cover comprising:

a sleeve formed of an expanded core polymeric film having at least a portion of one surface thereof modified to provide the sleeve formed therefrom with a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth, the sleeve having an upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface and an inner retaining space, wherein a flower pot may be disposed in the inner retaining space of the sleeve whereby the sleeve substantially surrounds an outer peripheral surface of the flower pot and provides the decorative cover for the flower pot wherein the decorative cover has a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof.

29. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 28 wherein the expanded core polymeric film has a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

30. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 28 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided on at least a portion of one surface of the expanded core polymeric film by at least one of printing, embossing, flocking, applying a foamable lacquer, applying a foamable ink, applying a matting lacquer, applying a matted ink, and combinations thereof.

31. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 30 wherein the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth is provided by a printed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the expanded core polymeric film and an embossed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface of the expanded core polymeric film.

32. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 31 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are in registry with one another.

33. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 31 wherein the printed and embossed patterns are out of registry with one another.

34. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 31 wherein at least a portion of the printed pattern is in registry with the embossed pattern, and at least a portion of the printed pattern is out of registry with the embossed pattern.

35. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 28 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is closed.

36. (Original) The decorative cover of claim 35 wherein the lower end of the sleeve is provided with a gusset formed therein.

37. (New) A method for wrapping a floral grouping with a sleeve having a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one surface thereof, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a floral grouping having a bloom portion and a stem portion;

providing a sleeve formed of a flexible polymeric material having at least

a portion of one surface thereof modified to provide such surface

with a texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance

of cloth whereby the sleeve has a texture or appearance simulating

the texture or appearance of cloth on at least a portion of one

surface thereof, the sleeve having an upper end, a lower end, an

inner peripheral surface, an inner retaining space and an outer peripheral surface; and
placing the floral grouping into the inner retaining space of the sleeve.

38. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein, in the step of providing the sleeve, the flexible polymeric material is further provided with an embossed pattern disposed on at least a portion of one surface thereof which provides the sleeve with the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth.

39. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein, in the step of providing the sleeve, the sleeve is further characterized as having a detaching element for detaching a portion of the sleeve and wherein the method further comprises detaching a portion of the sleeve via the detaching element after the sleeve has been bound about the floral grouping.

40. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the portion of the sleeve detached and at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the portion of the sleeve bound about the floral grouping are each modified to provide the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth thereto.

41. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein, in the step of providing the sleeve, the sleeve is provided with a printed pattern on at least a portion of one of the outer and inner peripheral surfaces thereof which provides the sleeve with the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth.

42. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the sleeve is further provided with an embossed pattern on at least a portion of one of the outer and inner peripheral surfaces thereof which cooperates with the printed pattern to provide the texture or appearance simulating the texture or appearance of cloth.

43. (New) The method of claim 42 wherein at least a portion of the printed pattern and the embossed pattern are in registry.

44. (New) The method of claim 42 wherein at least a portion of the printed pattern and the embossed pattern are out of registry with one another.